Madagascar,

Fo. 13.

THE RICHEST
And most FRVITFVLL ISLAND
In the WORLD.

WHERE IN

The Temperature of the Clymate, the Nature of the Inhabitants, the Commodities of the Countrie, and the facility and benefit of a Plantation by our people there, are compendiously and truely described.

DEDICATED

To the Honourable IOHN BOND, Governour of the Island, whose proceeding is Authorized for this Expedition, both by the KING and PARLIAMENT,

By WALTER HAMOND.

LONDON:
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To the Honourable JOHN BOND, Governour, and Captaine Generall of MADAGASCAR.

GReat Actions are not enterpriſed by vulgar Spirits: without eminent Vertue, man ſeldome riſeth above private Intereſts: in this deſigne, you have given the World a Teſtimony of what Latitude your thoughts are, how not to be circumſcribed within the common narrow Limits. The *Romans*, in that glorious Age (which remaines an Envy to all ſucceeding) imployed their moſt famed Generals; in diſcovery of remoteſt Iſlands, and our owne had the Honour to be invaded by the greateſt *Cæſar*: and when he made his attempt here, the *Indies* can afford no people more divided in it ſelfe then we were; more weake in fortreſſes on land or ſhips at Sea: but time hath reformed us to the Excellency we now ſo much glory in. The Nobleneſſe of his Example ſerves you for encouragement; and I am certaine, the largeneſſe and fertility of the Iſland of *Madagaſcar*, promiſeth you a far more rich returne: And it may be poſſible ſomething of his Honour. Before you could ſet ſaile, you met with a rough ſtorme at Land, and your Fleet was in danger of Wrack, before it lanch't forth: but the oppoſition became your advantage, and who laboured the ruine of your expedition, rais'd it up, and confirm'd it on that height, that no Envy now can undermine it, nor can it lye open to any future

queſtion. The Parliament after full debate found how Juſt and Honourable to the Kingdome was his Majeſties Favour to you, and by their approbation added a ſecond kind of Seale to your Patent. I here preſent you with the Iſland you aime at, drawne in a little Tablet, the Cloath courſe, and the colours poore, and ill laid, but it may chalenge the better reception, in regard it was taken to the life by me an eye witneſſe, in whom the memory of that fruitfull and pleaſant Countrey ſo far prevailes, that it makes me ambitious to forſake my Native, and wait upon you thither: if you will pleaſe to admit me

Sir, moſt devoted to your ſelfe

and the Service

WALTER HAMOND.

TO

To the Reader.

NAture imprisons the Natives of our Country within the Seas: but Art revengeth the injury, and by the Invention of Shipping, makes us free of the whole world, and joynes our Island to the remotest continent: The Sun doth neither set nor rise, but w'ere we are addmitted, or make our selves free denizens; and farthest Nations acknow'edge us either with veneration or terrour. And however the scornefull folly of our Neighbours reproacheth us with the name of Islanders; yet have we enlarged our victories on the maine Land, and by being immured with the water, gained the priviledge to be Chief Masters of that Element. Our forefathers in their discoveries, left us a noble envie of their fortunate attempts: And Captaine Bond (to whom I dedicate this weak Description of the Island, as I am confident the Island shortly will it selfe) is now following their glorious tracke, and may arrive to be an equall wonder to after History. For if we value the riches of the Land he is bound for, either naturall, or to be gained by Industry, It assures the Adventurers the most plentifull return, being furnisht with such Commodities as no other Plantation ever afforded. If we regard the wholesomenesse of the Ayre, and pleasure of the soyle, It promiseth the Planters health and delight. And if we looke on the nature of the people we are to deale with, they, how ever not civil'z'd into our manners, reteine the first incorrupt innocence of man. An Earth, like that o' Eden, pleasant without artifice, and plentifull without labour: a people app'oaching in some degree neere Adam, naked without guilt, and innocent, not by a fore't vertue, but by ignorance of evill, and the creatures as humble, and serviceable to man as they were before his transgression. But what particularly perswades us to this Honourable Expedition, nature hath ingrafted in their soules a strange affection towards our nation, & by their submisse entertaining

us, seemes to propheſie the eaſineſſe of that victory we are even courted to: But we intend not to betray them to ſervitude, though conqueſt lyes open to us: Religion and the Arts wee ſhall inſtruct them in, will be ſufficient gaine to them, for whatſoever riches their Country ſhall afford us. But how happy ſoever our fortune may be, they will ſhare at leaſt with us, and perhaps preceed us: For what will bee our wealth, will no way impoveriſh them; and what will enable us at our returne, cannot make their treaſure one graine the lighter.

Since opinion is the Common judge of Riches, vnd what in the Weſt is of higheſt value, as gold and precious gems, among them are eſteemed trifles, as our beades and other low-prized vanities, are their riches. But what ſerves as the moſt powerfull Adamant to draw us to this Adventure, we ſayle not to this Iſland to plant, but to reape, and no ſooner ſhall we arrive but we ſhall find our harveſt, ſo many wealthy Commodities there attending onely the leaſure of the happie Adventurer, and periſhing for want of the Iudicious, who know how to diſtinguiſh what Nature hath ſo liberally enlarged.

In a word, as it was ſaid of Thebes, *ſo may I trulier ſay of this Iſland, That the Sun in all his progreſſe doth not not behold a richer and ſweeter Countrey.*

W. H.

A briefe and moſt True Deſcription, of the Rich and flouriſhing Iſland of MADAGASCAR.

Madagaſcar, as it is generally called in all our Maps, and *Chartes*, (though by the Natives called by a different name) is an Iſland ſituate on the South of the *Equator*, and extendeth it ſelfe North and South, from 12. degrees, to 26. degrees of latitude, in length 14. degrees, that is 280. leagues, or 840. Engliſh miles, and is the greateſt knowne Iſland in the world, having on the Weſt the main Land of *Africa*, on the North the Iſlands of *Comoro*, on the Eaſt the Iſland of the *Mauritius*, and on the South the maine Ocean. The generall Deſcription of the Iſland.

Heere in the *Bay* of *Auguſtine*, is the place where the Engliſh Ships bound for *India*, doe uſually put in both outward and homeward, to take in their Wood, Water, and other Proviſions; chiefly to refreſh and Cure their ſick people, where commonly their longeſt ſtay is but for five or ſix dayes, in which time they are perfectly cured. This *Bay* lieth on the Weſt ſide of the Iſland, in the latitude of 23. degrees ½ under the Tropick of *Capricornus*. Auguſtine Bay.

In this *Bay* we arrived in *Anno* 1630. in the *Charles* and *Ionah*, Captaine *Weddell* Commander, on the firſt of *July*, and ſtayed there till the beginning of *October* following, which time we ſpent in coaſting along the Country,

and

and in obſerving the cuſtomes and qualities of the people.

For the Iſland it ſelfe, on the Eaſt ſide it ſheweth to be a low Champion Country, with many large creekes and In-lets, but on the Weſt it is more mountainous and woody, the Vallies yeelding large plaines for paſture, full of Navigable Rivers, the ſoyle is generally a kind of Red earth. Heere I obſerved that for the moſt part all the Rocks and Stones are white Marble.

White Marble.

For the Seaſon, when we arrived there, it was in the depth of Winter, the Sun then being in the Tropick of *Cancer*, at which time we found the Trees and Plants in their full verdure, all loaden with greene fruit of ſeverall kinds, the Aire ſo temperate and wholeſome, that although our people as they did oftentimes ſleepe on the bare earth, yet in all the time of our ſtay there; (as divers can juſtifie) we never had any man ſick.

The wholſomenes of the Aire,

To particulariſe of the nature and qualities of the Trees, fruits, and Plants of the Iſland, would rather require an Herball, then to be Epitomized in my Relation, and would be impoſſible for me to performe, ſeeing that Almighty God doth diſpoſe to each Country and climate, their particular plants and fruits, to our Nation unknowne, yet ſome of them I will deſcribe as beſt knowne of us.

As for Timber, there is great variety, their whole Woods conſiſting of many kinds, fitting both for Maſt and Planck, the chiefeſt of them is the Tamarind tree, whereof there are aboundance of that growth, that wee ſaw'd ſome of them into Planck, that carried foure foot Diameter. Of Ebony there is great ſtore, both white and black, Trees of a kind of Red-wood like Braſill, and as hard, whereof the Natives make their Darts, which I have to ſhow; other trees there are wherof our men made

Tamarind Tree.

Ebonie black and white.

Redwood.

their

their Mathematicall Instruments, and by them preferred before Wall-nut tree or Box, besides infinite other kinds serving for Planck, Clap-boord, and Pipe-staves, whereof we made tryall. Box.

One thing I obserued, that not one tree but bore fruit, though unknowne to us, yet the Munkeys were our tasters, for if they did eate of them, we durst boldly adventure.

All the Vallies neere the Sea, and along the fresh Rivers, are full of Palmito trees, from whence by making a small incision with a Knife or Hatchet, in a quarter of an houre and lesse doth issue forth a most pleasant and wholesome liquor, in taste like white Wine, and will inebriate as soone, and this being kept, in two dayes doth become excellent Vinegar. Palmito, or wild Date tree. Palmito Wine.

Besides the Palmito there is an other kind of them that can be hardly distinguished, but that it doth beare a fruit which we called the Sea-Cocus, whereof I have some to shew, the Kirnell whereof is esteemed to bee of equall vertue with the Bezar-stone. The Portugals cal this Fruit Coco di mar.

I may not forget that admirable tree which we named the Flesh-tree, whereon I would have all those that desire to try their blades and to glut their eyes with the effusion of Humane blood, to be exercised, for it is so like to materiall Flesh, that if you strike at it and wound it with your Sword, it sheweth like an incision made in flesh, and bleedeth forth a Crimson sap like very blood, we supposed the Sanguis Draconis, whereof they brought us a great quantity, to be made of the juice of this tree. The Flesh Tree. Sanguis Draconis,

Oranges and Limons are here in aboundance, where although our Countrymen have knowne and frequented this Island above 30. yeeres; yet we were the first that discovered them, for shewing them by chance a dryed Oranges and Limons. George Gosnell Purser.

Limon which one of our company had in his Pocket, the next day we had more brought unto us then we knew what to doe withall; we ſhewed them Pepper, Cloves, and Nutmegs, which they knew, and made ſignes to us by their geſture, that they grew up in the Country foure or five ſleepes, which we interpreted nights.

Pepper, Cloves, & Nutmegs.

Their Cattell heere, I meane their Oxen and Kine, are the goodlieſt and largeſt for ſize that the world affords, and as fat, their Oxen having a great bunch of fleſh on the top of their ſhoulder as a Camell hath on his back; ſome of them I have ſeene waigh above 30. *lib.* being ſo curiouſly enterlarded, that we eſteemed that part to be the daintieſt part of the beaſt.

Their Cattell. Oxen.

For Sheepe they have likewiſe in great aboundance, which are both larger and fatter then ours, but of a courſer wool, the tayles of ſome of them waighing above 20. *lib.* Goats they have in great plenty, all which Cattell are exceeding tame becauſe they doe live among them and are in a manner bred up together. Of all which Cattell they brought them downe to us every day in whole droves, ſo that we were compelled to buy more then we could ſpend, which we committed to them to keepe, who at our departure did faithfuly reſtore them to us againe.

Sheepe. Goates.

Hogs they have wild in the woods, whereof we killed ſome, but they nouriſh none amongſt them. As for Lions, Tigers, and other ravening beaſts, we neither ſaw nor heard of any, and I beleeve there are none, for their Cattell feed abroad day and night in the plaines in ſafety, the greateſt enemy their Cattell have, is the Crocodile or Alligator, who being in the freſh rivers, meets with them ſometimes when they come to water, but of theſe there are not many, and thoſe might ſoone be deſtroyed

Hogges. No Lions, or Tigers, nor Woolves.

ſtroyed if the Natives had either wit or skill to doe it.

Of Fowle they have of all kinds both wild and tame, as well of thoſe kinds beſt knowne to us as of others that I cannot name, but of thoſe we knew are theſe, Cocks and Hens, Ginrey Hens, Peacocks, Parrats of divers kinds, Patridges both wild and tame, wild Swans, Geeſe and Ducks, Herons, Cranes, Paſſula flemingos, whereof we have killed a dozen at one ſhot, Curlewes, and infinite other kinds to us unknowne. Their Fowle. Hens. Ginny Hens. Peacocks. Patridge. Swans. Geeſe. Ducks. Paſſula flamingos

For fiſh their Rivers abound with great ſtore of all kinds, tedious it were for me to reckon them, we have taken ordinarily above 500. Mullets at a draught, and the like of all other kinds. Great ſtore of Fiſh.

Now concerning the quality and diſpoſition of the People, they are generally of a very loving and affable condition, for in that three moneths that we lived amongſt them, we had as much freedome and lived as ſecurely as if the Country had beene our owne, and if at any time our people by wandring abroad had loſt their way, they would carefully bring them to us in ſafety without offering them the leaſt injury. They are juſt in all their dealings, whereof we had good experience: For example, during the time of our abode amongſt them, they bringing downe daily ſuch an aboundance of Cattell, which being ſold to us for ſmall prices, we bought every day more then we could ſpend, to the number of an hundred head of Cattell, which we committed to one of their owne people to keepe for us, not greatly caring whether we had them againe or no, yet at our comming away when we had cleared our ſelves of the ſhore, and all our men and proviſions were aboord, our Graſier brought downe to the Marine all our Cattell to a hooſe, and did helpe us to get them aboord, and in Nature & diſpoſition of the people. Their affability. Their Equity. An example of their fidelity.

all our trayding with them we never ſuſtained ſo much as the loſſe of one Bead. For theft they puniſh it with death, the father having that power over his owne children, for there we ſaw the father lanc'd his owne child, a Maiden of ſome ten yeeres of age, for ſtealing of ſome two or three Beads.

Their Iuſtice.

For their perſons, they are a luſtie tall people both Men and Women, the moſt part exceeding us in ſtature, of a browne or Cheſtnut colour, as well the Men as the Women weare their haire about a foot long, which they braid up as we doe an Horſes maine. In their haire and eares the Women chiefly weare Beads, Shels, or peeces of Copper, alſo bracelets about their armes, either of ſweet Wood, or of Shels, the better ſort of Copper or Braſſe. Every Man for the moſt part weares about his neck his Razor, pick-tooth, and Mullets, to pluck out the haire, (for you muſt note they weare no beards) alſo his ſticks to kindle fire, all which I have to ſhew. The Women likewiſe weare neck-laces of Beads, ſweet Wood, or Shels, or what their fancie beſt pleaſes. They go generally all naked as well the Men as the Women, except a ſmall peece of Cotton of their owne making, ſome two handfulls broad and ten long, which comming about their waſte they croſſe it betwixt their legs and ſo make it faſt behind them, and this is the ornament of the Married, the reſt goe naked.

Conſtitution of their bodies, and ornaments.

Apparell.

Nor did their nakedneſſe any way tempt us to any uncivill action, at the firſt our curioſity made our eyes unchaſt, but after one weeke they converſed with us, with the ſame obſervation as we behold ordinarily our Cattell, and I doe beleeve that apparell and the dreſſe of Women, alures more then their nakedneſſe.

Nakedneſſe no motive to incivility.

They are generally of a lazie condition, for they neither plant nor ſow, for in the Sommer time they feed

Their diſpoſition.

on

on those fruits which the earth naturally produceth, and on milke all the yeere long, which for want of vessels the most part of them like great Calves suck from the Cowes, a thing ordinary with them. For bread they have some *Cuscus* and *gravances* which I beleeve growe naturally; they kill no Beast without the allowance of the King or Governour, who divideth to every one his part according to his family, wherein I noted both their community and Justice. Their diet.

They are in continuall Wars one against another, which is chiefly for warring places, for whilst we stayd amongst them we desired them to shew us the manner of their fight, which they did to make us sport, their Skirmishes are on this manner; They divided themselves into two Companies, some fifty on a side with Launces and Darts without heads, and so betwixt running and leaping with a terrible hubbub or cry, they traverse their ground and so deliver their Darts, which the adverse party either avoydeth or catcheth, and returnes back to them againe; Their Women and children in the meane time imploy themselves in gathering up of the enemies weapons, wherewith they supply their husbands and fathers. Their maner of Fight.

At our first comming a shore when they beheld us set up our Tents and had planted a couple of Fowlers, they imagined that we came to inhabite there, whereupon their King *Andrapela* with his Company, to the number of an hundred came to our Captaine, submissively laying their Launces at his feet and kissed them, offering himselfe and his people unto his subjection, praying him to receive them, their Wives, Children, and Cattell under his protection, and to defend them from their Enemies, which the Captaine accepted; he told us of the mortall wars they had with the *Massagores* their Their behaviour at our first landing. Captaine Weddell. The Massagores.

next borders, but before we departed we left them good friends.

A policy of Andrapela.

Upon a time, I know not whether upon policy or necessity they came to our Captaine with a lamentable cry, that the *Massagores* were come downe upon them and had drove away their Cattel, & that unlesse we came speedily to rescue them, they should be either all slaine or Captived. Whereupon in halfe an houres time wee had at least 200. of our men in armes, with our Drum, and Colours flying, to look out for this supposed Enemy, having marcht thus a mile or two into the Woods, they brought us at length unto a place where the King had provided three or foure fat Sheepe and other things to feast us, and this was all the Enemy we found.

In Anno 1606.

When our People first discovered this Island, which was about 37. yeeres since, we had no Commoditie to trade with them for their Cattell, Royalls of Eight they refused, at length having espyed the Boat-swaines whistle and Chaine they had a great mind to the Chaine, so that for a foot of Chaine we bought an Oxe, whereupon the next Voyage we carried over silver Chaines on purpose to trade with them; afterward when our men shewed them red Agat Beads they became in love with them, and would trade with us for Chaines no longer, so that for a few Samsams or round small Beads, wee bought up all our silver Chaines again. Every morning during our abode there they brought us downe at least two or three hundred head of Cattell of all kinds, as Oxen, Sheepe, and Goats, of which the largest and fattest Oxe we bought for five or six long Beads, called by them *Arango's*, which cost us in *India* not two pence the Bead, and the smaller Cattell after that rate, and these are the Jewels they most esteem, for as I said before being a naked people, and having no settled Habitations, they

Our first tradewith them.

Great plenty of Cattell, and good Cheape.

affect

affect nothing but what they can hang about their necks and armes, wherein they take a great pride, and is indeed all the wealth they have. As for their Kine they doe not willingly part with them but keepe them for breed, and for their milke for the sustenance of them and their children.

When we came first among them we could never see above foure or five hundred of them, Men, Women, and Children, that lived together under one Raiæ or Governour, nor could we see more all the time of our stay, and these came to us armed with Lances and Darts neatly and artificially made, for other weapons they know none, but by the policy of Master *Richard Wild* our President, we bought up all their weapons for a few Beads and so disarmed them, so that for two monethes after we could scarsely see twenty Lances amongst them all, for although all their imployments be about the making of them, yet for want of Tooles they cannot make one in a fortnights time.

Not above 500. at the most live together.

A good policy of Master Richard Wild the our President.

In coasting along the shore to the Northwards in our Barge, some twenty leagues from *Augustine Bay* where our Ships road, we fell within a great fresh River as broad as the Thames at *Lee*, whereon we sayled some foure or five leagues, where we saw the goodliest Country that ever eyes beheld. We sounded as we went, and found no lesse then foure or five fadome water, and therefore Navigable for Ships. The Natives seeing us (whom they had never seen before) used all the means they could by calling to us, making wests and using other gestures to cause us to come on Land, which at the last we did, being not above twenty of us, every man having his Musquet, who entertained us with a great deale of respect, presenting us with their fruits, sweet gums, and the like, making signes to us to goe with them to see

A large River discovered to the north of Augustine Bay.

their

their Towne which we yeelded unto, reere about 100. of them being our convoy arm'd after their manner, who brought us first through a great Wood at least halfe a mile through of Palmito and Tamarind Trees, then we came into a great large plain or Pasture of as good grasse and Herbage as ever I beheld in *England*, whereon a number of Cattell were grasing.

Beyond this plaine in a little copse or wood were their houses, made like Sommer Bowres of boughs and Mats, here they entertained us with songs and dances, bringing their yong children to us to take in our armes, to whom we gave a few glasse Beads, & they presented us with Lambs, milke, egges, and the like. Here they offered us their Oxen, Goats, and Sheep, for Beads at halfe the rate we payd in *Augustine Bay*. And not oneiy at this time but at another time we found out the cunning of *Andrapela*, for we had not beene there a moneth but the rumor of our arrivall comming up into the Country, they brought downe great droves of Cattell to us on the other side of the River to sell to us, but he would by no meanes have us to trade with them, making signes to us that they were Man-eaters, but when he saw that we were resolved to trade with them, he gets over to them before us and deales with them for halfe the profit, as we knew afterwards.

Their maner of entertaining

Andrapela's subtiltie.

In our Voyage back againe, we fell into a deepe Bay where we found aboundance of excellent Oysters, growing or rather sticking to the rootes and branches of Trees which you must conceive grew in salt water, which were both large and fat, and not much inferiour to our English Oysters; this Bay or creeke is not much above a league from *Augustine Bay*.

Oysters growing on Trees.

For their Religion, as far as we could trace them, we conceived them (if of any) to be *Mahometans*, which they

Their Religion.

they have gotten by their affinity & neer neighborhood to the *Moores*; that filthy Sect like a contagious Leprosie hath generally infected almost all those Easterne and Southerne parts of the world; for we observed them to be circumcised. Their Priests came often to us, and were present sometimes at our Devotions, where they behaved themselves with a great deale of reverence. They shewed us their books which were made of Parchment or sun-dried sheep-skins; their characters were like the *Egyptian* Hieroglyphicks, some like a fish, a tree, a flower, a beast and the like, which they would read to us in a confused manner, being as they told us a prayer to God. We shewed them one of our Books, which when they had well viewed and turnd over, they delivered us back again, requesting us to read therein, whereat they gave good attention, yet they understood us no more then we did them.

Their Priests.

Their manner of writing.

Now for the Commodities & Riches of this Island, which every one doth hearken after, what greater wealth would any man desire to have then to have aboundance of all good things that this present life doth require? The Preacher saith, that the principall things for use of Man are *Water, Fire, Iron and Salt, Corn, Honey, Milk, Wine, Oyle, & Cloathing*, all which this Country doth naturally even plentifully afford. For the Island it self, it lieth in a most temperat climate under the Tropick, a Virgin never yet deflowred either by the plow or spade. Gold, Silver, Copper, Brasse & Iron, we have seen among them, which are therfound naturally, although they valew them not except it be Iron, which necessity hath taught them to melt out of the hard Rocks for their Lances & Dart heads, & what other rich minerals and precious Stones they have are unknowne to us, neither what rich gums and drugs those parts afford we know not. By chance those people brought us a kind of Red gum having the smell of Balsome, which being cast on the coales yeelded a most excellent perfume better then Beniamin: We brought from thence a good quantity, whereof I have some to shew, the powder therof put into any woundor ulcer doth pre-

Commodities of the Country.

Eccles. Chap. 39 ver. 28.

Gold. Silver. Copper. Brasse. Iron.

Sangui draconis

 sent-

sently cure it as I have often experienced, it proved to be a kind of Sanguis Draconis; the Herbe Aloes doth grow there in such aboundance all along the Marine, that one of our men by my direction in three or foure dayes made halfe a hundred waight, which was sold Master *Sadler* a Druggest in *Buklersbury* for a noble the pound, and by him preferred to be better then that which is brought us from *Soccatove*, from whom the next Voyage after I received instructions in writing how to refine it, and of this an hundred tun might be made in a yeare, if there were good vent for it, to speake nothing of Sugar and Ginger, which naturally grow there in aboundance, and for the Silke wormes, I can testifie upon my oath and produce witnesses, that in walking through the woods we have bin entangled so fast with raw silke, that we have had some trouble to cleare our selves.

loes.

ugar. Ginger. ilke Vormes.

Now how easily might there be a Plantation made upon this Island by our Nation, let the indifferent Reader judge, how honourable for the Kingdome, and how profitable for the Adventurers. And first for the facility therof, they are a people with whom we have had trade and commerce neere upon forty yeares, and therefore they are well acquainted with our conditions and friendly deportment towards them. And as for the length of the Voyage, it being neere upon two thirds of the way to *India*. Consider that now by our anuuall trading into those parts our Seamen are more skilfull, and better experienced in those Voyages then formerly they were: For having past the *Canaries* you sayle alwayes before the wind, in a smooth and peaceable Sea out of the range of the Turkish Pirats, so that Ladies may and have often gone those Voyages, even to the utmost parts of *India*.

Incouragemēts for a plantation.

he length of the Voyage Foure monthes.

As the lady Sherry, the Lady Hawkins, and many other English women.

And lastly, what an infinite Commodity would redound to our Country if we had a Plantation there, it being onely fittest for us, and I do beleeve reserved for us in this latter Age. To which purpose that truely Noble Gentleman Captaine *Bond* our Governour, what a sea of opposition hath he waded through

Captaine John Bond.

through to settle a Colony of English in that rich and plentifull Island, for the honour of his King and Kingdome, and for the propagation of the Christian Faith, among those poore seduced Soules?

For the trade we have in *India*, let us consider upon what a tickle poynt it stands, subject to the tyranny of the ambitious *Moores*, who upon every slight occasion quarrell with our Merchants that live among them, confiscating their goods, imprisoning their persons, and threatning them every houre with their terrible Chawbucks or Whips, extorting from them infinite sums of money, for little or no cause at all. And then again to consider what a world of Treasure is every year transported to those Infidels, by the English and Hollanders, & nothing returned but leaves & blossomes, I mean Cotton & Indico; as for Cotton it doth grow there naturally, for Indico if it do not grow thereas I think it doth, the seed may easily be brought thither frō *India* & Planted there, & workmen brought thither to work it. Aloes, as I said before, may be made there in aboundance. Ships & Pinnaces may therbe built. Ships that are bound for *India*, may there be victualled both outward and homeward, which would be a great benefit for all those ships that goe for *India* and *Persia*, for if their Beefe be well killed, salted, prest, and repackt againe, it may be preserved in Caske a twelve moneth and longer. For salt there is no want thereof, for besides that which you may find kirned on the Rocks, salt-pans may easily be made.

The trade of India.

Building of Ships & Frigats.

For the Victualling of the Indian Fleets.

But it may be here objected, that if this Island of *Madagascar* were of that worth, wealth, and so commodious as I would infer, the *Portugals* had long since planted upon it as they have done on many places both in *Africk* and on the firme Land of *India*. To this I answer, that when the *Portugals* first passed the Cape of good Hope, to discover the Kingdomes of *Cambaia* and *Calicut*, now named the *East-India*, they coasted along the maine Land of *Ethiopia*, and fell with *Mosambique*, where they planted a Colony for the relieve of their

An objection Answered.

ships comming out of *Europe*, where they take in fresh Provisions, and their wants supplied they proceed on their pretended Voyages to *India*, where they intended their conquests and plantations, using that other but as an Hostery or a place of relieſe for their Ships outward and homeward, not comming scarsely within the sight of *Madagascar*. Nor can either *Spaniard* or *Portugall* here claime any title, having had never any footing here, much lesse that they should any way oppose us, they having more Forts in *India* already then they are able to hold, and are almost beaten off of their Trades since the *English* and *Dutch* used those Seas.

Consider withall, how that a few *Portugalls* have for the space of neere upon two hundred yeares fortifyed themselves on the maine Land of *India*, as at *Cambaia*, *Gogo*, *Daman*, *Muscat*, *Dabull*, *Goa*, *Callicut*, *Mallacca*, *Macao*, and others; and doe hold them still in despight of the *Moores*, a warlike and powerfull Nation. I need not tell you of *Ormus* a barren Island, or rather a Rock of salt, yet by the industry of the *Portugalls* in a few yeares, by forcing the *Indian* trade thither, it became the greatest Mart in the world.

And to conclude, this Virgin Island of *Madagascar*, doth here by me friendly and lovingly invite our Nation to take some compassion of her Nakednesse, her Poverty, and her Simplicity, both Corporall, and Spirituall, and doth earnestly and affectionately, even beg of us to Redeeme her out of her miserable thraldome, under the Tyranny of Satan, to be united with us into the fellowship of the Sons of God, by our Union in Christ Jesus.

FINIS.

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